Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar: (*a*) Under the procurement scheme every land holder or cultivator is bound to sell to Government a quantity of paddy equivalent to the Settlement Pattom of his holding, irrespective of whether the balance after such sale is sufficient to meet his full requirements for domestic consumption or not.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Yes. They were considered and disposed of by Government.

(*d*) Yes; if there is sufficient quantity left with the cultivators after the sale of the quota to Government.

(*e*) No discrimination is shown in favour of owners of large area of paddy fields.

Purchase by the local Revenue Officers.

163. ***Mr. K. C. Chandy**: With reference to the statement in the Press Note dated the 1st September 1943 that "in order to facilitate the work of purchase by the local Revenue Officers agreeably to the principles laid down above, Government are taking steps to associate members of the Legislature with the Tahsildars in the respective taluks.....", will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) what steps were taken since the date of the Press Note for the contemplated association of the members of the Legislature;

(*b*) whether any instructions were issued to the Tahsildars for this end;

(*c*) if the answer to part (b) is in the affirmative, to place on the table a copy of such instructions;

(*d*) whether the members of the Legislature were notified of the same; and

(*e*) if the answer to part (b) is in the negative, by what other means the contemplated association of members of the Legislature was brought about by Government?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar: (*a*) The Food Grains Purchase Officer addressed personal letters to the members of the Legislature requesting their co-operation as contemplated in the Press Note dated 1st September 1943.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Copy of the instructions issued to the Tahsildars is laid on the Secretary's table.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) Does not arise in view of the answer to part (b).

Midwives for Villages.

164. ***Mr. Paul A. Thallath**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

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